



*The Senate*  
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
P.O. Box 129  
Saipan, MP 96950


OCT 05 1995

Honorable Froilan C. Tenorio  
Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern  
Mariana Islands  
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Governor Tenorio:

I have the honor to transmit herewith for your action Senate Bill No. 9-209 entitled, "A Bill for an Act to provide for a special election to consider proposed amendments to the Constitution submitted by the Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention.", which was passed by the majority vote of the members of each house of the Ninth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

Sincerely,

  
DAVID M. CING  
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

Attachment

RECEIVED 05 OCT 1995

**THE SENATE**  
**NINTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH**  
**LEGISLATURE**

**FOURTH REGULAR SESSION, 1995**

PUBLIC LAW NO. 9-56  
**SENATE BILL NO. 9-209**

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**AN ACT**

To provide for a special election to consider proposed amendments to the Constitution submitted by the Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention.

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**Offered by Senators** Thomas P. Villagomez; Henry DLG. San Nicolas;  
Eusebio A. Hocog; and Jesus R. Sablan

**DATE:** September 25, 1995

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**SENATE ACTION**

**Second and Final Reading:** September 25, 1995

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**HOUSE ACTION**

**First and Final Reading:** September 27, 1995

  
**DAVID M. CING**  
**SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY**

*Rec'd 10-5-95*

**NINTH NORTHERN MARIANAS  
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE**

PUBLIC LAW NO. 9-56  
**SENATE BILL  
NO. 9-209**

**FOURTH REGULAR SESSION, 1995**

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**AN ACT**

To provide for a special election to consider proposed amendments to the Constitution submitted by the Third Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE NINTH NORTHERN MARIANAS  
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE:**

1           Section 1. Title. This Act shall be known as the Special Constitutional  
2 Amendment Election Act of 1995.

3           Section 2. Findings. The Legislature finds that the Pre-Convention  
4 Committee of the Third Constitutional Convention has requested that the Legislature  
5 provide a special election to consider constitutional amendments, instead of placing  
6 the amendments on the ballot of the general election of November 1995.

7           There are two compelling reasons for holding a special election. First, the  
8 Convention completed its work on August 3, 1995. This allows only three months for  
9 public education, discussion and debate. These important issues should be given  
10 more time.

11           Second, if the amendments are placed on the general election ballot, it is likely  
12 that the constitutional issues will become part of the general election campaign and  
13 will be mixed with partisan politics.

1 For these reasons, the Legislature finds that amendments should be considered  
2 separately, in a special election to be held at least six months after the end of the  
3 Convention.

4 Section 3. Special Election.

5 (a) Authority. Pursuant to Article XVIII, Section 5(a) of the  
6 Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the  
7 Commonwealth Legislature hereby provides for a special election to consider  
8 those amendments to the Constitution which may be proposed by the Third  
9 Northern Mariana Islands Constitutional Convention.

10 (b) Date of Election. The special election shall be held on the first  
11 Saturday of March 1996.

12 (c) Scope of Election. The election shall only consider those  
13 constitutional amendments proposed by the Third Constitutional Convention.

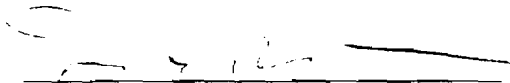
14 Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this Act or the application of any  
15 such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of  
16 competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to  
17 persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be  
18 affected thereby.

19 Section 5. Savings Clause. This Act and any repealer contained herein shall  
20 not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired  
21 under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the  
22 statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted  
23 under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of this Act shall not have the effect of  
24 terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall  
25 already be in existence at the date this Act becomes effective.

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1 Section 6. Effective Date. This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the  
2 Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

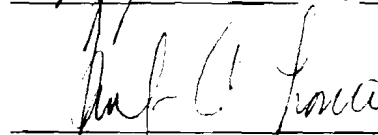
**CERTIFIED BY:**

  
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JUAN S. DEMAPAN  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

**ATTESTED TO BY:**

  
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DAVID M. CING  
SENATE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY

*Approved* this *6<sup>th</sup>* day of *October*, 1995.

  
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FROILAN C. TENORIO  
GOVERNOR  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS